

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of the claims will replace the prior version as provided in the originally filed application.

Listing of Claims

Claims 1-28 (cancelled)

29. (Previously Presented) A method of creating a coating on an article structured to contact physiological fluids or tissue, the method comprising the steps of:

providing a hyaluronic acid solution having a pH generally under 4.0;

bonding a the hyaluronic acid solution to a surface of the article without photochemical treatment; and

applying a heparin solution to the surface of the article.

30. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 29, wherein the hyaluronic acid solution has a pH adjusted to a range between about 1 and ~~6.5~~3.0 to promote bonding with the surface of the article.

31. (Original) The method of claim 29, wherein the heparin solution has a pH of about 2.

32. (Currently Amended) A method of creating a coating on an article structured to contact physiological fluids or tissue, the method comprising ~~the steps of~~:

applying a solution containing both hyaluronic acid or analogues thereof and heparin molecules to a surface of the article, wherein the solution has a pH generally under 4.0 and at least some of the hyaluronic acid molecules or analogues thereof bond with the surface of the article without photochemical treatment.

Claims 33-37 (Cancelled)

38. (Currently Amended) The ~~coating composition method~~ of claim 29, wherein the hyaluronic acid has a molecular weight that may range between about 50,000 Daltons to about 30 million Daltons.

39. (Currently Amended) The ~~coating composition method~~ of claim 38, wherein the hyaluronic acid has a molecular weight of about 7 million Daltons.

40. (Currently Amended) The ~~coating composition method~~ of claim 29, wherein the heparin solution is selected from a group consisting of: low molecular weight heparin, unfractionated heparin and heparin having a molecular weight that may range between 5,000 Daltons and 30,000 Daltons.

41. (Currently Amended) The ~~coating composition method~~ of claim 29, wherein the article includes a material selected from a group consisting of: plastics, polymers, polyesters,

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polyolefins, polycarbonates, polyamides, polyethers, polyethylene, polytetrafluoroethylene, silicone, silicone rubber, rubber, polyurethane, DACRON, TEFLON, polyvinyl chloride, polystyrene, nylon, latex rubber, stainless steel, aluminum alloys, metal alloys, nickel, titanium, ceramics and glass.

42. (Cancelled)

43. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 32, wherein the solution has a pH of about 2.

44. (Currently Amended) The ~~coating composition method~~ of claim 32, wherein the article includes a material selected from a group consisting of: plastics, polymers, polyesters, polyolefins, polycarbonates, polyamides, polyethers, polyethylene, polytetrafluoroethylene, silicone, silicone rubber, rubber, polyurethane, DACRON, TEFLON, polyvinyl chloride, polystyrene, nylon, latex rubber, stainless steel, aluminum alloys, metal alloys, nickel, titanium, ceramics and glass.

45. (Withdrawn) A coated article manufactured in accordance with the method of claim 29.

46. (Withdrawn) A coated article manufactured in accordance with the method of claim 32.

47. (Withdrawn) A coating composition for use in coating a substrate material, comprising in a solution:

a base layer forming composition including hyaluronic acid, the base layer linkable with the substrate material without photochemical treatment; and
a biocompatible layer forming composition.

48. (New) The method of claim 29 wherein the hyaluronic acid solution has a pH of approximately 2.3.

49. (New) The method of claim 29 the step of providing the hyaluronic acid solution includes dissolving hyaluronic acid in water and adjusting the pH by adding a hydrochloric acid.

50. (New) The method of claim 29 further comprising dissolving the hyaluronic acid solution in a solution of sodium chloride.

51. (New) The method of claim 32 further comprising dissolving the solution of hyaluronic acid and heparin in a solution of sodium chloride.

52. (New) The method of claim 29 wherein providing the hyaluronic acid solution includes providing a solution of hyaluronic acid or analogues thereof and bonding the hyaluronic acid solution includes bonding molecules of hyaluronic acid or analogues thereof to the surface.